

IAP6 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 FEB 2006

PTO/SB/08a (05-03)

IDS - 02/24/2006

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	February 24, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Thomas Matschullat
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2003P11654WOUS

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
KL	1	US- 6,588,494	07-08-2003	Mazurier et al.	
KL	2	US- 6,471,789	10-29-2002	Ames et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
KL	3	EP 0 655 511 A1	05-31-1995	Hitachi Metals, LTD.		
KL	4	CH 684 172 A5	07-29-1994	Branko Hribovsek, et al.		

Examiner Signature	/Kuang Lin/	Date Considered	02/07/2007
-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

10/569781
 APS Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 FEB 2006

PTO/SB/08b(05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
		Filing Date	February 24, 2006
		First Named Inventor	Thomas Matschullat
		Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
		Attorney Docket Number	2003P11654WOUS
Sheet	2	of	2

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
KL	5	C.A. SANTOS, J.A. SPIM and A. GARCIA, "Mathematical modeling and optimization strategies (genetic algorithm and knowledge base) applied to the continuous casting of steel", Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence, Vol. 16, No. 8, 2003, Pages 511-527, XP002301310.	
KL	6	JEAN-MICHAEL DENGLER, GUNTER HARTMANN, HANS-WERNER JAKOB and GEROLD LACHMANN, "Einfluß der Stahlbegleitelemente auf die Vergießbarkeit und das Umformverhalten von Beam blanks", Stahl und Eisen, Verlag Stahleisen GmbH, Düsseldorf, Vol. 120, No. 3, March 15, 2000, Pages 81-84, XP000945579.	
KL	7	F. PAN, S. ZHOU, X. LIANG, P. DING and C. XU, "Thin strip casting of high speed steels", J. OF MATERIALS PROCESSING, Vol. 63, 1997, Pages 792-796, XP002301311.	
KL	8	VERSCHUEREN, P, "CA-AL treatment improves the castability of Al-killed steels at Dillinger Hüttenwerke", Steel Times International (INC. STEEL TIMES), DMG WORLD MEDIA, Redhill, Surrey, GB, Vol. 14, No. 1, 1990, Pages 15 and 23, XP000114180.	
KL	9	I.C. YOU, C.N. CHU and R.L. KASHYAP, "EXPERT SYSTEM FOR CASTABILITY EVALUATION: USING A FIXED-FEATURES BASED DESIGN APPROACH" Robotics and Computer Integrated Manufacturing, Elsevier Science Publishers Bv., Barking, GB, Vol. 6, No. 3, 1989, Pages 181-189, XP000670446.	

Examiner Signature	/Kuang Lin/	Date Considered	02/07/2007
-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.